

**Silicon Valley/San Jose Business Journal - September 21, 2001**<http://sanjose.bcentral.com/sanjose/stories/2001/09/17/daily60.html>

## Breaking News

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# California leaders support Bush

President George W. Bush's speech to Congress and the American people Thursday night has been endorsed by California political and business leaders contacted by the Business Journal.

"There was a great demonstration of unity," U.S. Rep. Mike Honda, D-San Jose, told reporters afterward. "The President gave the nation what it was looking for: Firm ground upon which to go forward."

Palo Alto Democrat Anna Eshoo called the address the best speech of Mr. Bush's presidency. "I think it will be regarded as one of the most important speeches that any president has ever given," the congresswoman says.

"I stand foursquare behind President Bush ... as he prepares America for a protracted campaign against terrorism," Gov. Gray Davis says. "I have the utmost faith in our armed forces and in the sheer determination of the American people. We will triumph."

The Silicon Valley was represented in the chamber Thursday night not just by its elected officials but by former San Jose Mayor Norman Mineta who was seated behind Attorney General John Ashcroft. Mr. Mineta is now Secretary of Transportation.

"When I looked across the House floor at the Congress, I saw a group that is mostly ordinary Americans, who are now called on to make some extraordinary decisions," Ms. Eshoo says. "If our citizens can do what they did, as people were fleeing those structures and others went right into the fire, I think we have to be courageous in what we have to do."

"I thought he was exceptionally eloquent," says Jim Cunneen, president of the San Jose/Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce and himself a former state legislator. "He inspired Americans with a very focused speech delivered in a plain-spoken manner. He went a long way to unite Americans."

Carl Guardino, head of the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group, watched the speech with the Los Altos Hills City Council where he was to talk with council about the Housing Trust of Santa Clara County.

"I thought it was a home run. It was extremely well given and delivered," says Mr. Guardino. "It emphasized what we are doing and why we are doing it. I was especially pleased at the repeated references to honoring our fellow citizens

Later, the council voted to give \$10,000, twice what Guardino was asking for, putting the total raised at \$20.3 million.



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